



Southeast Signal

News, Events, and Information from Around the System

From the Director



Fairly soon will be the first day of spring. Not only does that mean the return of nicer weather and longer periods of daylight – it also means spring cleaning!

So what are you doing in your library to clean out? Here are some ideas besides dusting and vacuuming:

- Shelf straightening and Weeding.
Take a leisurely stroll through your shelving area, straightening the books and maybe doing some light weeding. Note if you need to get any new bookends or if there are any repairs that need to be made. If you are feeling really ambitious – maybe start planning to do a full inventory in the near future.
- Financials & other records.
If you didn't do it at the start of the year, or at the end of your last fiscal year, now might be a good time to go through your file cabinets and remove files that you don't need to keep any more. Do you really need that phone bill from 1987? On a related note, maybe it is time to clean up your email or the files on your computer as well.

- Policies

This might be a good month to start doing a systematic review of your policies. You don't need to tackle them all, but maybe take one or two and take a good look at them. Do you still need that policy that talks about checking out 8-Tracks? Do you refer to buildings that are no longer standing?

Here's another idea especially for smaller libraries that may not have a dedicated maintenance or cleaning staff. Have a spring cleaning day in your library *for* your library! Invite volunteers, board members, trustees, or whatever group you think appropriate to help straighten and dust shelves, wash the windows, cleaning up the landscape and other bits. You may need to spring for some refreshments, but the work gets done faster with more people doing it.

Whatever you do, even if it is just a little bit, will help the appearance of the library and make it a better place to work and visit.

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Calendar

March 17—[SELS Policies for Results workshop](#), Seward Public Library, 9:45 am—3 pm

March 19—[NSLA School Librarian's Day](#)

March 20—Spring Begins

March 24—CASTL at Fairbury Public Library (SRP Plans)

March 25—National Tolkien Reading Day

March 27—Easter

April 4—National School Librarian Day

April 7—National Coffee Cake Day

April 5-9—Public Library Association Conference, Denver (NLA sponsored bus, p.7)

April 10-16—National Library Week, "Libraries Transform"

April 15—NLA Round Tables Spring Meeting, p. 10

April 28—PLTS/SCYP Spring Meeting, p. 10

May 12—SELS Friends "Aged to Perfection", p.13

May 13—SELS Training Extravaganza, Seward Memorial Library, 9:30 am —3 pm, pp. 11-12



Photos of the Month



As part of Morton-James Public Library's (Nebraska City) on-going project to build an escape room (with a zombie-theme), they divided their kids into four different teams (Tech-geeks, Puzzlewizards, Storytellers and Zombiemakers). Team Zombiemakers (their makeup team) needed someone to practice their craft on. Rasmus Thoegerson, library director, spent the afternoon scraping latex-paint off, but he claimed "It was totally worth it."



CASTL Wrap-Up

Upcoming CASTL Meetings

March 24

Fairbury Public Library
"Summer Reading Plans"

April 22

Lincoln—Gere Branch
"Collecting Local History" with
Cindy Drake

May 26

Hruska Memorial Library
David City
"Favorite Books"

June 30

Morton-James Public Library,
Nebraska City
"Escape Room"

July 21

Geneva Public Library
"Weeding" with Denise Harders

August 18

Stromsburg Public Library
"SRP: Lessons Learned"

September 23

Auburn Memorial Library

October 28

Dvoracek Memorial Library
Wilber

At our February 19th CASTL meeting in Beatrice we listened to Lisa Craig, from the Nebraska Department of Labor, present about NE Works (<https://NEworks.nebraska.gov>).

One of the first tips she gave was to have a person who is having trouble with the website call the nearest Nebraska Department of Labor office (Beatrice, Lincoln, York, etc.)

Many of those present mentioned that they have a big problem with people not remembering usernames and passwords. Lisa gave the example of making the password an equation like Two+Two=Four, which is both easy to remember and includes the required special characters. Members of the audience gave further examples of easy ways to form a password.

To file a claim for unemployment for the previous week, a person must list five employer contacts. At least one of the contacts must be made through the website.

The site also sports a resume wizard which allows users to create five different types of resumes. A resume must be opened and resaved every 90 days for it to stay active; otherwise it becomes inactive but will become active again once it is resaved. When viewing the site, employers see only the resume, not any other personal information entered into the website.

It is possible to specify counties where one is willing to work and an occupation code. Broader job searches may render more possible job fits.

The site also has templates for cover letters, thank you letters, and so on. Lisa is available to do mock interviews or to do mini-workshops on such items as resume writing, interviewing, etc.

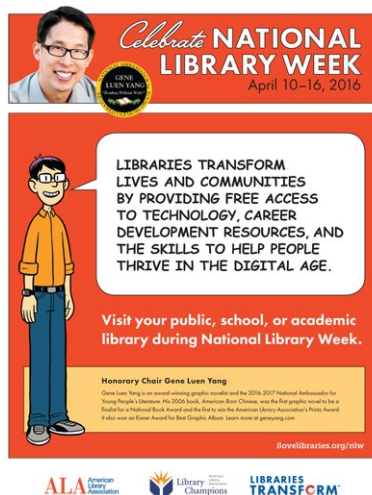
After lunch, the group turned to its round-robin discussion.

Upcoming Basic Skills Courses

Registration will be open soon for the next set of basic skills courses, offered through the Nebraska Library Commission. To see the full calendar & register for classes, [click here](#). Here's what's coming up next:

<u>Dates of Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Registration Open</u>
April 25 — May 6	Reader's Advisory	March 18 — April 15
May 9 — May 20	Intellectual Freedom and the Core Values of Librarianship	April 1 — April 29
May 23 — June 3	Library Finance	April 15 — May 13

News Around the System



National Library Week April 10-16

The 2016 National Library Week theme is Libraries Transform, and Gene Luen Yang will serve as Honorary Chair.

Gene Luen Yang is an award-winning graphic novelist and the 2016-2017 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature. His 2006 book, "American Born Chinese," was the first graphic novel to be a finalist for a National Book Award and the first to win the American Library Association's Printz Award. It also won an Eisner Award for Best Graphic Album. [Find out more about National Library Week.](#)



Annual School Visit by The Cat in the Hat and Thing 1 & Thing 2!

By Barbee Sweet

The Clarks Public Library celebrates Dr. Seuss' birthday each year with a school visit and reads Dr. Seuss books to the elementary kids. Book marks, finger mustache tattoos, & clovers from *Horton Hears a Who* were passed out.



News Around the System

New Activities At Seward Memorial Library

By Charlotte Baldinger

Cards, movies, games, exercise and parties are all presently on the events calendar at Seward Memorial Library. The library has offered fun activities for all ages in the past, but this year the staff has expanded the choices. The year started with a Harry Potter Party which involved staffed stations located around the library. Costumed children as well as adults were entertained as they entered the world created by J.K. Rowling and participated in activities related to the books.



On Saturdays in January and February the aroma of freshly brewed coffee could be detected in the library as a group of Pitch players drank java with their morning donut.



During February and March soft music accompanied 20-30 adults who are learning Tai Chi in the library each week.

Those who love words had an opportunity to join in a Scrabble Tournament during February. New release feature films are shown twice each month for daytime movie goers. Staff enjoys relating to the patrons at a different level and looks forward to surprising the community with more first-time programs in the future.

March Madness! The Contemporaries versus the Classics

By Heather Koenke

Each week Auburn Memorial Library's patrons vote for their favorite books. In the end, they will have one winner. Will it be a classic or a contemporary? Their patrons will decide!

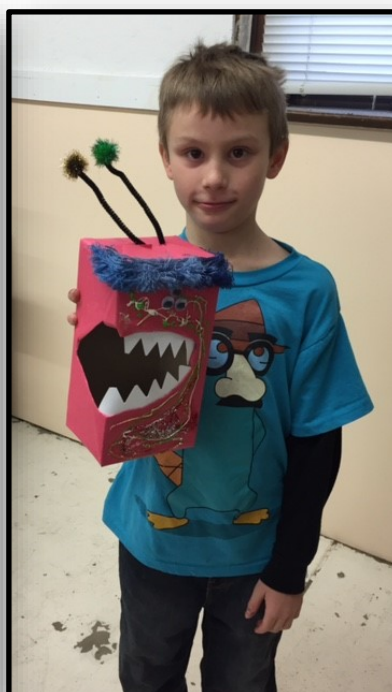
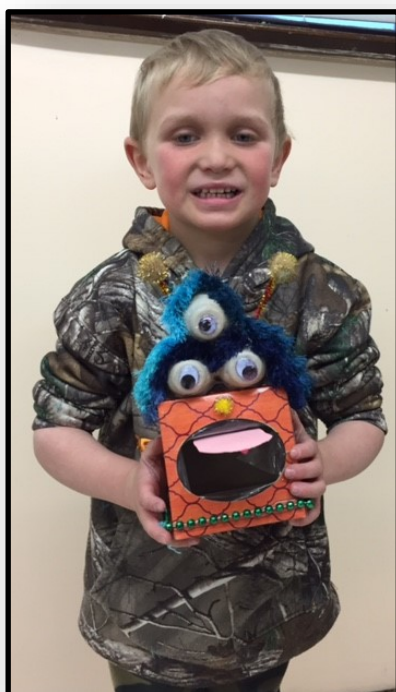


News Around the System

Love Monsters at Clarks Public Library

Photos and Story by Barbee Sweet

Love was in the air at the Clarks Public Library the week before Valentine's Day. Elementary kids were welcome to come & create their own Love Monster. All the supplies were made available by the library. There were no two monsters alike! It was a fun, creative afternoon for everyone who participated. The kids could take their Love Monster to school for their Valentine's box also! The Library is hoping to make this an annual event in the future.



Prepare for Special Summer
Reading Events

with the help of the

[Nebraska Library Performers Database](#)

News Around the System

Downton Abbey Tea in Fairmont

By Wanda Marget

18 ladies attended Fairmont Public Library's Downton Abbey Tea held Friday, March 4th at the Senior Center in Fairmont. Humanities Speaker "Yesterdays Lady" Sue McClain (right) showed fashions from that era. Tea and Strawberry Shortcake were served and after the speaker, they answered trivia about the show "Downton Abbey" and voiced their wishes for the last episode. Ladies attended the tea with hats and enjoyed the teapot collection of Library Board President Georgia Schropfer (pictured below with her daughter Ann Holstrom and Library Director Wanda Marget).



Ride the NLA Bus to Denver!



NLA is excited to offer a group bus trip to the PLA Conference in Denver, Colorado. This trip is made possible in part with monies from NLA's Legacy Fund. NLA will offer low cost transportation for Nebraska librarians to and from the conference via charter bus. A bus will leave in the predawn hours on April 5th from Omaha, making pick up stops in Lincoln, Grand Island, Kearney, and North Platte before depositing travelers in Denver. For more information, contact Jake Rundle at rundleje@gmail.com. [Online Registration is available.](#)

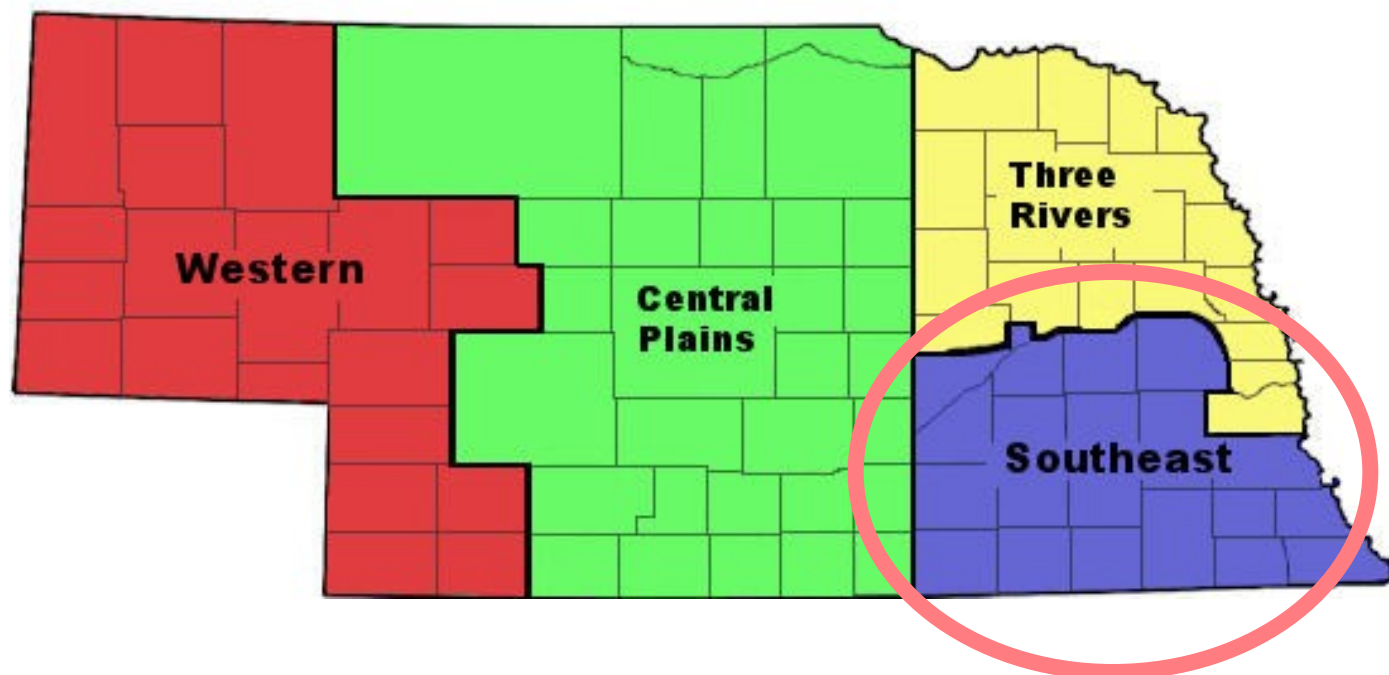
SELS Board Nominations

Nominations Sought for Upcoming Elections

The time is near for the next election to choose SELS board members.

If you would be interested in serving on the board, or know someone who you feel would be a good board member, Scott would love to hear from you!

If you work in a library, are a library board member or user of a library in our service area, you are eligible to be a board member. The Southeast Library System serves the counties of Butler, Clay, Fillmore, Gage, Hamilton, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Merrick, Nemaha, Nuckolls, Otoe, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saline, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, and York.



The board governs the Southeast Library System. Board member responsibilities include approval of policies, plans, and budgets, as well as evaluation of the System Director. Board members serve a three year term. The board meets four times a year at locations around the SELS area. The term would begin on July 1, 2016. We serve all types of libraries and we strive to get that diversity in our board as well.

The deadline for all nominations is April 2. To self-nominate, please send your name, library and role at said library, and a short (under 100 words) biography to scott.childers.sels@gmail.com. To nominate someone else, please send their name, contact information, and whether you have already approached that person.

NLM History of Medicine Exhibition Program

The U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) hosts a splendid collection of items in their History of Medicine Division. The NLM has one of the world's richest collections of historical material related to human health and disease, and their exhibition program is a vital part of that collection. Any library may host one of the nine traveling exhibits currently available, or view one of the 26 online exhibits.

One of the newest digital exhibits is *Confronting Violence: Improving Women's Lives*, which commemorates the work of nurses and other activists who confronted domestic violence to improve the lives of women. The online exhibit includes lesson plans and materials for educators and a digital gallery of videos used for the education of medical professionals in support of domestic violence victims.



The only cost to libraries to host a traveling exhibit is for shipping, and exhibits may be booked online through the NLM's website. The exhibits are popular, and most have to be reserved two to three years in advance.

Traveling Exhibit FAQs:

<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/booktraveling-faqs.html>

To Book an Exhibit:

<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/about/exhibition/booktraveling.html>.

Questions may be directed to Christian Minter, christian.minter@unmc.edu or 402-599-7226.

Daylight Savings Time Starts Sunday, March 13



Love it or hate it, the time change is here on Sunday. We get to "spring forward." Perhaps the best way to think of it is as a sign of Spring.



NLA Upcoming Events



TSRT/IFRT/NMRT Spring Meeting on April 15

Theme: “It’s a Dirty Job, but Somebody has to do it!”

9:30-10:00 Registration

10:00-10:50 **Keynote Presentation:** *Defending Intellectual Freedom in Nebraska Libraries: Not Always a Dirty Job, but You've Gotta Do It Regardless (David Moshman, AFCON Board Member)*

11:00-11:50 **Finger in the Dike: Managing Demand-Driven Ebooks (James Shaw, UNO) OR Neverending Cleanup (Susan Mueller, UNK)**

12:00-1:30 Lunch and Business Meetings

1:30-2:20 **How I Used my Ninja MarcEdit Training to Clean Up! (Heather Buckwalter, Creighton University) OR Intellectual Freedom and Library Service (Adam Prochaska, attorney at O'Neill, Heinrich, Damkroger, Bergmeyer & Shultz, P.C., L.L.O)**

2:30-3:20 **Lightning Rounds**

For more information and to register for this meeting, [click here](#).

PLTS/SCYP Spring Meetings

Wednesday, April 27 in Kearney or Thursday, April 28 in Ashland



Presenter: Marketing expert Ali Schwanke, whose social media session at the 2015 Nebraska Library Association Annual Conference was standing room only and received rave reviews.

Primary Topic: The Social Librarian—Creating an Engaging and Powerful Social Media Presence

Social media is a powerful tool for connecting with customers and learning enthusiasts. However, it can be challenging to create a social media strategy while allotting the time and resources to make it worthwhile. This session will provide you with the plan you need to craft a strong and creative social media presence, along with the ideas, resources (many of them are free!) and software to efficiently bring it to life. We'll audit real-life social media accounts and identify strategies for improvement. If you'd like to have your social media reviewed as part of the training, please contact Ali at ali@alischwanke.com.

Additional Breakout Sessions:

1. **Presenting Your Best Self When Networking and Public Speaking**
2. **Guerrilla Storytime**
3. **BookTalking with Ease**
4. **Welcome! Focusing on creating a welcoming environment at the library (based on a famous restaurant's culture in New Orleans)**

To register for this meeting, [click here](#).



SELS Training Extravaganza

May 13, 2016 at Seward Memorial Library

9:30 – 3:00

	Room 1	Room 2	Lab
9:30 – 10:00		Welcome & Refreshments	
10:00-10:50	Robot Invasion! with Kent Steen	Successful Interviewing and Hiring with Jodene Glaesemann and Julie Beno	MyHeritage for Librarians with Martha Grenzeback
Break		Break	
11:00-11:50	SPICE UP Your Programming for Young Children with Spanish Language Experiences with Karen Drevo	Psychiatric Disorders in the Community with H. John Lehnhoff, Ph.D.	Hands-On with OverDrive Marketplace Usage Reports and Support Tools with Susan Knisely
Lunch		Lunch	
1:00 – 1:50	Programming that Doesn't Break the Staff or the Budget: Panel Discussion	Libraries on the Edge with Scott Childers	Clouding Up with Craig Lefteroff
Break		Break	
2:00-2:50	Booktalking 101 with Pat Leach	Making Your Catalog Work for Your Community with Emily Nimsakont	Maker Camps with Megan Boggs

\$25 fee includes lunch!

For session descriptions, see next page!

Register at <http://bit.ly/SELSTraining>

Overview of Sessions and Labs

Robot Invasion! with Kent Steen

The robots are coming! Learn how Lincoln Public Schools elementary students are learning to code using a variety of robots. Participants will learn about Dash and Dot, Ozobot, Bee-bot, Sphero, and more.

Successful Interviewing and Hiring with Jodene Glaesemann and Julie Beno

This workshop will provide you with a process to hire the best fitting candidate for your position. This process begins with reviewing the open position and position description, followed by writing and reviewing interview questions, interviewing, and then evaluating the candidates.

MyHeritage for Librarians with Martha Grenzeback

Get some hands-on practice with MyHeritage, the NebraskaAccess genealogy database, and learn how to help your patrons research their family history.

SPICE UP Your Programming for Young Children with Spanish Language Experiences with Karen Drevo

Even librarians who speak little to no Spanish can immediately add Spanish language experiences to your usual programming for young children. English speakers learn some Spanish and Spanish speakers are welcomed into the community.

Psychiatric Disorders in the Community with H. John Lehnhoff, Ph.D.

Based off presentations to police departments, this workshop should help you feel more comfortable around mentally ill or agitated persons who enter or use the library.

Hands-On with OverDrive Marketplace Usage Reports and Support Tools with Susan Knisely

Learn how to find out circulation numbers for Overdrive titles in your library, where your patron is in the hold queue, and more at this special training on the administrative side of Overdrive. Please bring your Overdrive Marketplace password.

Programming that Doesn't Break the Staff or the Budget with the Nebraska Writer's Guild (Gina Barlean, Bonnie Lacy), NPPD (Mark Miller), Nebraska Humanities (Mary Yager), and Live from Wahoo (Diane Wolfe, Dave Privett).

Don't feel like you have the staff or the budget to host quality programming at your library? Panel Presenters will explain how you can use their organizations as resources for a variety of programs.

Libraries on the Edge with Scott Childers

Edge is a set of tools that can be used to assess your libraries technology levels in equipment, staff skills, and policies. These tools identify areas to work on and specifically focuses recommendations on working with the community decision makers. Edge is designed for public libraries, but there are parts that could be used by any type of library of any size.

Clouding Up with Craig Lefteroff

If your desktop's cluttered with documents or you're running out of space for pictures and videos, cloud storage might be just right for you. By using the cloud, you can save space on your computer and have access to your files through any Internet connection. In this session, we'll examine the major providers of storage, such as Dropbox and Google Drive, and talk about the best methods for ensuring reliability and security. We'll also have some hands-on practice at uploading and accessing content from the cloud.

Booktalking 101 with Pat Leach

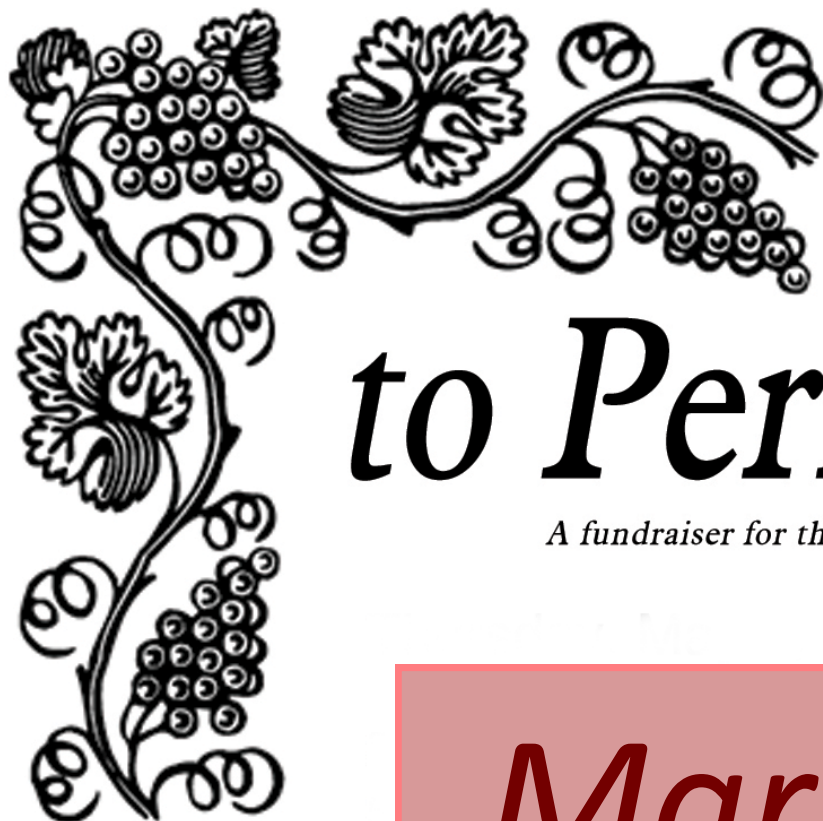
Some basic ideas for how to talk about books you've read, and also about books you haven't read, to provide great service to your customers and community

Making Your Catalog Work for Your Community: How to Develop Local Cataloging Standards with Emily Nimsakont

When it comes to cataloging and classification, consistency obtained through standards is important. That does not mean you have to be at the mercy of the national standards. This presentation will cover many ways in which you can adapt catalog records to make sure they work for your library users – from homegrown classification systems to local subject headings – and offer tips to make sure these practices still provide the consistency needed in a good catalog.

Maker Camps with Megan Boggs

What exactly is a Maker Camp? How do you apply to become an official Campsite? And what are some other good alternatives?



Aged to Perfection

A fundraiser for the Southeast Library System Friends

*Mark Your
Calendar!*

While the details are still being worked out, the date has been determined!

May 12

Thursday Evening

Lincoln

System Spotlight

Did You Know We Offer Scholarships for Continuing Education?

Here's what you need to know in brief:

- Any regional or national library event qualifies, including SELS, NLA, MPLA, and national workshops and conferences.
- Coursework in an area of library science qualifies.
- Scholarship amounts are capped at \$200 and will be given until we run out of scholarship funds, or by June 30, 2016.
- For more information and a scholarship application, [see our scholarship web page](#).



Southeast Library System

<http://www.selsne.org/>

Staff:

Executive Director—Scott Childers
scott.childers.sels@gmail.com

Assistant Director—Todd Schlechte
todd.schlechte.sels@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant—Maggie Kramer
maggie.kramer.sels@gmail.com

Contact Us:

Local Phone: 402-467-6188
Toll Free Phone: 800-288-6063
Fax: 844-270-7004
selsne@gmail.com

5730 R St. Suite C-1
Lincoln, NE 68505